

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary CO - Wildlife Habitat Improvement

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: CO - Wildlife Habitat Improvement		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Priority Habitats. Answer only ONE of the following questions (1-2), if applicable. Will the proposed project assist the applicant to implement practices which:	
1. Has the primary purpose of protecting, restoring, developing or enhancing Colorado NRCS's State Wildlife Plan identified habitats: native prairie, mountain shrub, wetland/playa and sagebrush-steppe?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Has the primary purpose of protecting, restoring, developing or enhancing wildlife habitat on: deciduous-coniferous woodland, stream, pond, or pasture/hayland/cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Priority Species. Answer only ONE of the following questions (3-5), if applicable.	
3. Is the primary purpose of the project to improve habitat for a species identified as federally threatened, endangered, proposed, candidate, OR for a State or Tribal protected species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Is the primary purpose of the project to improve habitat for at-risk plant species (Colorado's G1, G2)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Is the primary purpose of the project to improve habitat for one or more of the following species: waterfowl/shorebirds, pheasant, bighorn sheep, bobwhite/scaled quail, pronghorn, greater prairie chicken, grassland songbirds, elk, mule deer, trout, native fish, or turkey?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Priority Species and Habitats. Answer any of the following questions (6-10), as applicable. Will the proposed project assist the applicant to implement practices which:	
6. Enhances CRP (on land previously enrolled or exiting) as part of a wildlife management system (i.e. meets/exceeds Quality Criteria) or where cropland will be converted to permanent, primarily native cover?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Improves or enhances habitat for pollinator species and/or beneficial insects? Note: If the answer to this question is "yes", then national ranking points should also be taken for national question "6c".	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Modify infrastructure (roads, water sources, fences, culverts/diversions, utilities, etc.) or restore disturbed sites (abandoned roads, well pads) to reduce habitat fragmentation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Protects sensitive areas from negative impacts? Sensitive areas may include, but are not limited to, swales-depressions, springs, playas, wetlands, riparian, and streams.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. Reduces the impacts of invasive species (plant or animal) on fish and wildlife habitats?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Answer only ONE of the following questions (1-7), if applicable. Use a state office approved Wildlife Species Model for the targeted species. If one is not available, use the appropriate Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide (WHEG). Located in FOTG, Section I, Biology Technical Notes.	
1. Will implementation of the planned project increase the overall Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) by 0.7 - 1.0 habitat factor value points?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

2. Will implementation of the planned project increase the overall Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) by 0.6 habitat factor value points?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will implementation of the planned project increase the overall Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) by 0.5 habitat factor value points?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will implementation of the planned project increase the overall Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) by 0.4 habitat factor value points?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Will implementation of the planned project increase the overall Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) by 0.3 habitat factor value points?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Will implementation of the planned project increase the overall Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) by 0.2 habitat factor value points?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Will implementation of the planned project increase the overall Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) by 0.1 habitat factor value points?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Partnership and Landscape Effort	
8. Is the project located within 1/4 mile of other projects with similar goals and objectives? If yes, identify these efforts on an attached map.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

Efficiency: Local Issues: State Issues: National Issues: Final Ranking Score:
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This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative: Signature Date:	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy: Signature Date:
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